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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORT REPORT

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COUNTRY

Rumania

DATE DISTR. 11 December 1952

**SUBJECT** 

Titan Oil Refinery/Technomarina Chemical Works, Bucharest

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- The Industria Romana de Asphalt (Iras) was founded in 1925 by Emil Hartstein, an engineer. It was a joint stock company with a capital of 2,000,000 lei. Iras owned a factory in Bucharest Noi (New Bucharest), Strada Carpati, which manufactured bitumen from mazut.
- 2. In 1944 the plant was bombed and destroyed, and its remaining facilities for manufacturing bitumen were transferred to the Titan Oil Refinery. In 1947 the Titan plant was nationalized, and in 1949 it was amalgamated with the Technomarina Chemical Works in Bucharest, Soseaua Vitan 110. Since 1950 it has functioned as a unit of the Competrol center. The plant is presently located in Bucharest, Soseaua Vergului 172 (formerly the location of the Titan Oil Refinery), about 200 or 300 meters from the 23 August Iron Works (formerly Malaxa). There have been recent rumors that the factory is to be closed completely.
- 3. The following are the monthly production figures of the factory:

a. Bitumen

300 tons

b. Vaseline for rifles

300 tons

c. Vaseline, yellow, pharmaceuticald. Viscous lubricating grease

50 tons

e. Refined oleo acid

150 to 200 tons

- 4. The following raw materials are supplied to the factory by the refineries in the Ploesti area:
  - a. Mazut containing asphalt for the manufacture of bitumen
  - b. Mazut containing oil used for vaseline
  - c. Mineral oils used for vaseline
  - d. Oleo acid for refining (for the manufacture of soap)

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Caustic soda is sent from the Solvay Works, Uioara. The tin storage barrels are manufactured by Titan itself.

- The factory uses 150 to 200 tons of mazut monthly as fuel. It does not have its own power station.
- 6. Between two hundred and two hundred-fifty workers are employed in the two shifts. Five percent of the workers are women. In addition, there are thirty clerks.
- 7. The factory is guarded by fifteen armed watchmen and is surrounded by a wooden fence 2 meters high. It is bordered by an open field on three sides. On the right side of the main entrance (Soseaua Vergului) it is bordered by the Solidaritatea Brick Factory (formerly Kosca).
- 8. Since 1949 the Titan chemical works has continuously produced large quantities of an inflammable liquid. This is probably an anti-tank incendiary, consisting of gasoline, potassium chlorate, bitumen and other substances. The liquid, which is made for the Ministry of War, is drawn off into bottles and barrels, loaded on railway cars and dispatched to unknown recipients. The manufacturing process is strictly guarded and the liquid is made in a special department by a separate set of workers. Ten iron tanks and two steam autoclaves for the mixing of lubricating grease and vaseline, made by the Lemaitre Works in Bucharest, which had formed part of the Titan factory, were dismantled in 1950 or 1951 and taken to other factories.

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